

Wisconsin 2009 LSTA Grant Abstracts

Abstracts for the LSTA (Library Services and Technology Act) projects approved for funding in Wisconsin in 2009 are available below. These abstracts were included as part of the online grant applications submitted by grant applicants in September 2008. The abstracts are arranged in alphabetical order by project number within the LSTA grant categories.

Contents

Statewide Technology

Library System Technology

Merging Shared Automated Systems

Digitization

Health Information

Innovative Use of Technology

Wireless Internet Access

Accessibility

Adult, Family, and Early Literacy

Sensory and Mobility Disabilities

Library Development Training Projects

A. Technology

Statewide Technology

Northern Waters Library Service

09-110

NWLS Delivery Service Project

\$15,000

Delivery continues to be a highly valued and highly praised element of the NWLS service program. A combination of federal, state, county and local library funds support the continuation of this program. The number of interlibrary loans continues to grow and delivery is the means that transports these items throughout our 8,343 square mile service area and to the rest of the state. Patrons expect and deserve to receive materials in a timely manner while library staff requires a delivery method that takes the least amount of time as the volume of business grows. The statewide Delivery Services Advisory Committee and the LSTA Advisory Committee have authorized this non-competitive LSTA category for NWLS delivery because of the high cost involved in connecting NWLS to the statewide delivery backbone. It is essential for a statewide delivery service to have all public libraries included. NWLS will continue to participate in the Delivery Services Advisory Committee. NWLS librarians and staff will conduct an evaluation of the delivery service.

South Central Library System 09-112
Delivery Services \$75,000

South Central Library System (SCLS) provides the intersystem connection of the statewide delivery service. SCLS will use the grant funds to underwrite the increasing vehicle operating costs due to high fuel costs and maintaining an aging fleet.

Library System Technology

Arrowhead Library System 09-114
Training Public and Staff at System Member Libraries \$9,600

The Arrowhead Library System will provide computer training for staff and the public at the seven member libraries in Rock County. Arrowhead Library System will contract with the Hedberg Public Library for a computer trainer and the grant will cover a portion of the cost. The trainer conducts beginning and advanced computer classes, primarily for adults, including senior citizens, with a variety of physical challenges, including hearing loss, mobility problems and vision loss. The training is conducted in groups and for individuals, depending on the library setting in which the classes are conducted. Computer labs at two libraries, the Hedberg and Beloit libraries and individual work stations at the other five libraries are used to conduct the classes.

Eastern Shores Library System 09-116
Wide Area Network Access 2009 \$11,300

Eastern Shores Library System (ESLS) and Manitowoc-Calumet Library System (MCLS) have been providing wide area network (WAN) access to their member libraries since 1998. Each member library in the two systems has a TEACH circuit into the BadgerNet Converged Network, connecting to networking equipment in the ESLS offices in Sheboygan. The ESLS office connects via TEACH / BCN to WiscNet, the system's network services provider. ESLS has 10MB of transport to WiscNet, and 10MB for WAN traffic. The support for the network services are shared by ESLS and MCLS, 2/3 and 1/3 respectively.

This LSTA grant will provide funding for Eastern Shores Library System's share of the total telecommunications costs from TEACH. The grant will also pay for part of the cost of the system's member libraries' TEACH line to the BadgerNet WAN.

Indianhead Federated Library System 09-118
2009 System Technology Projects \$34,100

The Indianhead Federated Library System (IFLS) is a geographically large system spread across 10 counties in west central Wisconsin. Our membership is made up of 53 mostly small public libraries and 4 county library services.

IFLS will use its 2009 System Technology grant for the following projects:

Develop and Maintain Electronic Services:

- Purchase shared databases
- Increase Internet Bandwidth
- Maintain its membership in the Wisconsin Public Library Consortium and its electronic book projects with funding from this grant.
- Continue its participation in the state-wide AskAway virtual reference demonstration project"

Kenosha Public Library **09-120**
2009 KCLS Systemwide Resources and Services **\$8,900**

The Kenosha Public Library is applying for a 2009 LSTA Library System Technology Project Grant on behalf of the Kenosha County Library System (KCLS). This is a non-competitive grant category and KCLS is eligible to receive \$8,900.00 in funds if approved. This grant would be to purchase services and resources that have been purchased in 2008 with this same category of LSTA funds and in previous years with system funds.

The following services and resources are to be purchased with the grant money:

- Ask?Away Reference Service - Online reference service available on our website for users from home 24 hours a day and seven days a week.
- WPLC Membership and eBooks through NetLibrary - WPLC (Wisconsin Public Library Consortium) is a statewide group of library systems that looks at new and innovative services and works to get good value from buying for a large group of libraries. NetLibrary eBooks are included in the annual fee. These eBooks are available to all Kenosha County residents from the web and are also listed in the Kenosha Katalog.
- OverDrive Digital Books, Audio and Video - the annual subscription to OverDrive digital books, audio and video is available to all Kenosha Public Library and Community Library card holders from our websites.
- Syndetics Subscription - This annual subscription is for the product we use with the Kenosha Katalog that provides cover art and summary information of library materials, including books, visual and audio items.

Lakeshores Library System **09-122**
Lakeshores 2009 Technology Projects **\$14,500**

The projected use of this grant by Lakeshores Library System is to provide a means to acquire materials and services to enhance and expand the use of technology in Lakeshores Library System.

We plan to do meet this goal this year by expanding our collection of e-book readers (Kindles) as well as purchasing Wii hardware and a games collection.

We also plan to purchase portable inventory devices to run with our integrated library system.

We hope to have informational data on technology in libraries copied to portable media and available in Lakeshores member libraries.

If funds are available we hope to fund partially or wholly a database for use by Lakeshores Library System patrons.

Our firewall and router maintenance will be paid for from this grant as well as any equipment or software upgrades for the WAN.

Manitowoc-Calumet Library System **09-124**
T1 Lines and Data Lines Support **\$8,500**

This project will help the Manitowoc-Calumet Library System (MCLS) and its six member libraries to continue to participate in a high-speed, wide area network that is supported cooperatively by MCLS and the Eastern Shores Library System. In addition, a small portion of the grant will be used to help fund additional bandwidth purchased through WISNET to speed WAN operations.

LSTA funds will be used to pay for T1 lines for Manitowoc-Calumet's six member libraries at the TEACH-subsidized annual rate of \$1,200 per library. The grant also will pay for MCLS's share of three T1 lines that serve the network's central site. Under a contract with the Eastern Shores system, MCLS will use local funds to pay for most of the central site costs, administration, technical support, additional bandwidth and a portion of the MCLS share of WiscNet email and Internet service. These costs will absorb the remainder of the \$8,500 that is allocated to MCLS in this noncompetitive grant.

The wide area network supported in part by this grant provides the telecommunications backbone for shared automation systems in both Manitowoc-Calumet and Eastern Shores. Within MCLS, all six member libraries currently participate in a shared Dynix system through the Manitowoc-Calumet Libraries Automated Resource Sharing Consortium (LARS). MCLS and all of its member libraries have Web pages, which are hosted on the network's central site server. All of the library OPACs are available over the network, and all six libraries use the network for Internet access. (Even though Internet access is enabled by the wide area network, use of LSTA funds for T1 telecommunications lines as proposed in this project does not trigger Children's Internet Protection Act filtering requirements for participating libraries.)

As a small public library system that does not have a designated technology position on its staff, Manitowoc-Calumet is challenged to meet the technology needs of its member libraries. Providing high-speed, reliable telecommunications through the Eastern Shores/MCLS wide area network is one way for MCLS to offer a valuable and much-needed service. In lieu of hiring a full-time IT professional, MCLS will be able to invest in the cooperative collaboration with ESLs in 2009. MCLS member libraries have repeatedly confirmed that they want the System to continue to maintain the network as a system service. By paying for the T1 lines, which represent a substantial portion of network costs, this grant will help assure that Manitowoc-Calumet libraries and their users continue to have ready and reliable telecommunications to support resource sharing, communication, Internet access, and other activities.

**Mid-Wisconsin Federated Library System
MWFLS Technology Projects, 2009**

**09-126
\$17,400**

1. Providing adequate bandwidth for the MWFLS WAN: \$10,251 will be used to purchase ITp or WAN bandwidth for the MWFLS WAN. It will not be used to purchase Internet service.
2. WPLC Membership: \$7,149 will be used for MWFLS's WPLC Membership in order to be able to participate in the WPLC Overdrive subscription.

**Milwaukee County Federated Library System
System Technology Projects—2009**

**09-128
\$37,000**

MCFLS plans to utilize the 2009 Library System Technology Project funds toward the following projects:

- 1) Library Thing for Libraries subscription (LibraryThing) - an add-on product that would enhance our online catalog (Web OPAC) in three ways:

- Book recommendations. High-quality "recommended" or "similar" books, like reader's advisory that points to books available in MCFLS libraries.
- Tag-based discovery. LibraryThing for Libraries provides tag clouds for books, and tab-based search and discovery, drawing on the over 31 million tags added by LibraryThing members.
- Other editions and translations. Links to other editions and translations of a work.

- 2) Online Patron Registration - a product purchased from our ILS vendor (Innovative Interfaces, Inc.) Patrons will be able to register themselves as library users over the Internet.

The library offers the patron a form to enter their personal data, which is mapped to fields in the patron record as determined by the library.

Benefits of Online Self Registration:

- Saves staff time.
- Empowers customer.
- Improves customer service.
- Reduces lines at service desks.
- Can be done remotely.
- Provides access to premium databases with temporary barcode assignment.
- Allows customers to place reserves via the Web OPAC with temporary barcode assignment.

3) Spanish Web OPAC Menus - a product purchased from our ILS vendor (Innovative Interfaces, Inc.). Offers a translated version of standard OPAC catalog messages and labels.

4) Wowbrary subscription (Interactive Sciences, Inc.) - a service that regularly informs patrons by email and/or RSS about the public library system's newest books, movies and music. Wowbrary makes it easy for patrons to browse through the latest additions and place holds on new titles. Benefits of Wowbrary:

- Knowing about all the newest books, movies, and music.
- Ease, convenience, speed of browsing.
- Categorization.
- Email comes automatically.
- Makes the library more visible, transparent.

5) Overdrive Inc. Downloadable Audio and Video - grant monies would allow us to remain members of WPLC. A major benefit of WPLC membership is giving our patrons access to downloadable audio books and downloadable video through Overdrive, Inc. Grant monies would be used toward subsidizing additional content.

Nicolet Federated Library System 09-130
NFLS System Technology Project 2009— Database Support \$28,600

NFLS in cooperation with the Outagamie Waupaca Library System (OWLS) purchases subscriptions to a variety of databases including the Gale Biography and Literature Resource Centers, and Opposing Viewpoints, to supplement the state-supplied BadgerLink databases. This project will provide part of the financial support for the NFLS portion of these Gale database costs. OWLS is the contracting agency, and NFLS provides funding to OWLS for the NFLS portion of all database costs. Access to the databases is available to all users of the OWLSnet Innovative Interfaces integrated library system (InfoSoup.org), as well as to all users of the Brown County Library's Sirsi-Dynix integrated library system. Access to the databases is made available to all the libraries in both systems, as well as to users who log in to either the Brown County Library or OWLSnet websites from home or anywhere, using their library card barcode number.

Northern Waters Library Service 09-132
NWLS Technology and Database Project 24,000

The NWLS Technology and Database Project funds will be used to purchase subscriptions to shared online databases chosen by NWLS staff with input from member library staff. This grant will fund Ancestry Library Edition (a genealogy database), Chilton's Online (an auto repair database), plus WorldCat (an interlibrary loan tool). Funding will also be used to maintain membership in the Wisconsin

Public Library Consortium (WPLC) through which NWLS offers access to e-books, downloadable audio books and video.

Grant funds will also be used to provide training for NWLS technology staff. The high level of training required by technology staff is expensive and often a distance from the NWLS area.

**Outagamie Waupaca Library System
Support for Tell Me More**

**09-134
\$13,800**

Since 2000 the Outagamie Waupaca Library System (OWLS) and the Nicolet Federated Library System (OWLS) have provided their member libraries and patrons with access to a variety of electronic resources. Because of limited system funding it is difficult to pay for all of these subscriptions. In addition, member libraries continue to express the desire to have additional database products available to them. OWLS regularly evaluates the use of its online subscriptions and makes adjustments to licensing arrangements in order to optimize the benefit it receives from limited resources.

OWLS proposes to use LSTA funds to assist with paying for electronic resource subscriptions in 2009. Specifically, LSTA funds will be used to continue a subscription to the language learning program, "Tell Me More" It is anticipated that the 2009 subscription will cost at least \$17,850, and OWLS will use \$13,800 of LSTA funding from the Public Library System Technology Projects category to help pay for the 2009 subscription.

**South Central Library System
SCLS Technology Projects, 2009**

**09-136
\$42,000**

The LSTA 2009 funds from the Library System Technology Projects noncompetitive grant category will be allocated to the following SCLS projects, as approved by the Joint Technology Committee of SCLS:

- I. Digitization of a local history title\$2000 of the LSTA funds will be used to digitize a local history title. The exact title has not yet been determined. Some funds may also be used to add content digitized with 2008 LSTA funds to the State of Wisconsin
- II. Online databases\$11,000 will be used to pay for a portion of WorldCat.
- III. Patron & Staff Training in Technology\$7300 will be used to provide funds to member libraries for staff and patron training in the area of technology.
- IV. Document projector\$700 will be used to replace our current document project with an ELMO projector for use by both system staff and library staff for technical and other types of training and programming.
- V. RFID conversion unit Some SCLS member libraries expect to begin the conversion process to RFID in 2009. To assist with this effort, SCLS will use \$5500 of the LSTA funds to buy an RFID conversion unit for libraries to share.
- VI. Anti-virus replacement\$15,500 will be used to replace our current anti-virus software with a new package that is more robust and includes anti-spyware and anti-phishing protection.

**Southwest Wisconsin Library System
SWLS Technology Projects**

**09-138
\$14,100**

This grant will allow the Southwest Wisconsin Library System to do the following:

1. Continue to subsidize the T-1 line costs for 24 of its member libraries
2. Continue its membership in the Wisconsin Public Library Consortium
3. Provide access to the OverDrive audio book database
4. Provide a collection of NetLibrary eBook subject sets to residents of SWLS

**Waukesha County Federated Library System
Training, Digital content, and Wii**

**09-140
\$17,400**

This grant will provide three projects to be addressed.

1. Web development training: Funds will be used to provide training to librarians to learn to use new web software for developing their websites. Classes for software that will be used will be Dreamweaver, Fireworks and Contribute as well as classes in Javascript.
2. The Waukesha County Federated Library System (WCFLS) has been a member of the Wisconsin Public Library Consortia, which has provided access to digital content for MP3 players. In late 2008, Overdrive will begin providing content for iPods, which has been long awaited for by county residents. Funds from this grant will help create an iPod collection from Overdrive.
3. In 2008 through LSTA funds a program using Wiis was begun. This program has been a success in creating learning and community centers throughout the county's libraries. Member libraries have requested that they each have a Wii locally and then use the equipment from the 2008 to supplement their offerings as most libraries use multiple Wiis when they do programming. Grant funds will be used to purchase wiis, controllers and new software titles that will be shared by all libraries.

**Winding Rivers Library System
WAN Development and Maintenance 2009**

**09-142
\$22,500**

The WAN Development and Maintenance project addresses issues relating to Shared Automation Systems, by providing support for the central site capabilities of WRLSWEB, our shared technology network, which delivers library automation services to member libraries, the resource library, and WRLS staff. The majority of the grant funds will be used to enhance the central site databases and cover the licenses that provide access to these resources for sharing among member libraries. There will also be funds expended for training of staff to optimize use of the information technology capabilities, and a small amount used for supplies related to training and database support. As we begin 2009, twenty-nine of thirty-four member libraries (85%) will be fully participating in WRLSWEB. It is expected that this will be the maximum level of member library participation for the next few years. (The remaining five libraries have chosen not to participate in WRLSWEB; future changes in management will be the most likely event to generate a different decision.) This means that the vast majority of WRLS' member libraries are dependent in some fashion on the WRLSWEB network. Continued development and maintenance of the network is, therefore, crucial.

Specific steps in the project will include:

- 1) Contract with La Crosse Public Library (LPL) for training and technical support services for Winding Rivers and member library staff (\$12,420 + \$5,550 = \$17,970);

2) Contract with LPL for database enhancement services and maintenance of hardware and software licenses for the central site infrastructure (\$3,730);

3) Contract with LPL for the provision of training and database supplies needed to fulfill obligations encompassed by one (1) and two (2) above (\$800);

As of January 2009, twenty-nine connected to WRLSWEB for Internet services as well as operational support. Of the remaining five libraries, all have high speed DSL or cable connections for Internet service.

Winnefox Library System 09-144
Winnefox Technology Grant \$19,100

The grant funds will be used to help pay for several features on our WALs automated catalog/circ system that will benefit our member libraries and their users.

For several years we have purchased additional content for our OPAC records: contents notes, reviews, excerpts, and cover art from Syndetic Solutions. This content has been well received by both library staff and patrons and has enhanced the usefulness of the OPAC.

We will continue to maintain a Z39.50 interface to allow other libraries ILL access to our catalog.

Wisconsin Valley Library Service 09-146
V-Cat Migration and the Network \$27,200

The 2009 LSTA Library System Technology Projects noncompetitive grant in the amount of \$27,200 will be allocated to the following two projects which have been endorsed by the V-Cat Council, WVLS Network and Library Advisory committees, and approved by the WVLS Board of Trustees:

MAINTENANCE ON PACKET SHAPER APPLIANCE

Approximately \$5,300 will be used to pay for the maintenance of Cymphonix, a packet shaper appliance that prioritizes bandwidth and mission-critical traffic for the 33 locations participating in the WVLS wide area network.

MIGRATION TO A NEW SHARED INTEGRATED LIBRARY SYSTEM

Approximately \$21,900 of this grant will offset the contractual/licensing/maintenance costs associated with migrating from the current shared integrated library system to a more robust, sophisticated system. The Migration Committee, a sub-committee of the V-Cat Council, is investigating open source and proprietary software vendors.

Merging Shared Automated Systems

Indianhead Federated Library System 09-148
Merging systems in IFLS 2009 \$40,000

This application is to request the second portion, \$40,000, of the LSTA Merging Systems funds. In 2008 we received \$35,000 of the original \$75,000 we are eligible to receive for this grant category.

The Indianhead Federated Library System (IFLS) is a geographically large system spread across 10 counties in west central Wisconsin. Our membership is made up of 53 mostly small public libraries and 4 county library services. Forty-one of our member libraries are in communities of less than 3,000. Currently there are 2 shared systems.

In 2001 the IFLS Board of Trustees adopted the goal that the system will provide leadership in identifying new technologies and implementing them so all member libraries benefit. Shared automated information systems are one step on the path to achieving this goal. A single shared automation system is a step further to the goal.

There are now 40 member libraries and IFLS in the MORE shared automated system. There are 6 libraries in the BCLiC shared automation system.

IFLS is submitting this LSTA grant application to sustain merging the BCLiC into MORE.

The 6 BCLiC libraries will be replacing their current Horizon system to merge with MORE. They all have adaptive software and hardware. This will bring the number of libraries in MORE to 46 plus IFLS.

The Barron Public Library current total service population is 9,615. The Bruce Area Library current total service population is 2,054. The Cameron Public Library current total service population is 2,590. The Cumberland Public Library current total service population is 6,186. The Rusk County Community Library (Ladysmith) current total service population is 12,780. The Turtle Lake Public Library current total service population is 3,417.

Nicolet Federated Library System 09-150
Merging Shared Integrated Library Systems \$75,000

This project will assist in enabling the Brown County Library to migrate its stand-alone Sirsi-Dynix Integrated Library System (ILS) to the OWLSnet Innovative Interfaces ILS platform known as InfoSoup. The Brown County Library and all its branch libraries are the only libraries that remain outside the OWLSnet joint automation collaborative between the Outagamie Waupaca Library System (OWLS) and the Nicolet Federated Library System (NFLS). Migration to a new ILS platform is a necessity for the Brown County Library, as their vendor, Sirsi-Dynix, will no longer support the product they are currently using after 2008. In addition, bringing all the libraries in both systems together using the same ILS will facilitate an increased level of resource sharing among all NFLS and OWLS member libraries. This project will integrate the third largest library in the state into a common regional ILS platform with enhanced capabilities, which will be a model in Wisconsin for collaboration and resource sharing.

Digitization

Arrowhead Library System 09-152
Evansville History Digitization Project \$5,000

The Evansville History Digitization Project will provide electronic access to materials that are currently only available in print form or available to people who are able to go to the Eager Free Public Library in Evansville. The Evansville area has a rich history in agriculture, industry, commercial enterprises, social organizations, education and four-generations of a family circus. The local history room at the Eager Free Public Library provides a unique collection of materials related to Evansville, and Rock County townships, Union, Porter, and Magnolia townships, including photographs, diaries, books, cemetery records, handwritten general store ledgers, and scrapbooks. A 23-block area of the city is on the National Register of Historic Places. The administrator of this grant has been an Evansville history researcher since 1977 and has written extensively on the history of the community, biographies, and narratives about individual houses and commercial buildings in the city and is in a unique position to help with the metadata for this project. The Evansville History Digitization Project is endorsed by the Eager Free Public Library Board, the Evansville Historic Preservation Commission and the local historical

society, The Grove Society. The UWDDC was contacted in planning this project to determine the possible cost of digitization. (See list of items priced at \$5,600 by the UWDDC in preparation for this grant on additional comments page)

Dwight Foster Public Library

09-154

Lorine Niedecker Archive

\$1,807

The Dwight Foster Public Library will work with the University of Wisconsin Digital Collections Center to digitize the listed materials in the Lorine Niedecker archive housed at the Dwight Foster Public Library and the Hoard Historical Museum in Fort Atkinson. Lorine Niedecker is a world renowned 20th century poet who lived in the Fort Atkinson area. This project will make the archive accessible to researchers around the world as well as provide high quality digital preservation of these important materials.

Kenosha Public Library

09-156

Through the Lens of Louis M. Thiers

\$2,085

The Kenosha Public Library (KPL) Reference Services Division is applying for a second LSTA Digitization-Local Resources grant. This grant will allow for the digitization of additional images and albums from the Kenosha County Historical Society and Museum. These resources are unique and most of the photographs have never been published. They have been selected for their aesthetic appeal, strong composition, and mastery of photography demonstrated by Mr. Thiers. The material will captivate people of all ages.

This collaborative venture builds on the close relationship established in 2007 with the KCHS and will offer the public another “window into the past” as well as promote and preserve local historical resources available in one of the city’s educational and cultural institutions. The LSTA 2008 digitization grant awarded to KPL enabled both organizations, for the first time, to use state of the art technology to create an historical collection which now offers unprecedented individual access to special images and texts from the 19th and early 20th centuries. The C.E. Dewey Lantern Slide Collection has approximately 10 percent of the images found in the collection of glass negatives photographed by Mr. Thiers. This 2009 proposal involves over a thousand of the Louis Thiers glass negatives and two narrative albums. They cover a broad range of subjects and show his versatility working in various environments and under different lighting conditions.

Another project between the Library and the Kenosha County Historical Society and Museum will increase awareness of the rich variety of photographs and other materials found within the Kenosha History Center Archives, managed by the KCHS and Museum, and the library system. There will be links to this collection on various Web sites, and Internet search engines will easily direct local, state, national, and international users to the valuable historical resources contained within these local institutions.

The Kenosha Public Library will announce the award of this digitization grant through established media channels. When digitization work is completed, these online photographic collections will be promoted by a news release, fliers, small posters, articles in the Kenosha News, and newsletters published by the library system, the historical society, and the Kenosha County Genealogy Society. The Western Kenosha County Historical Society, a small organization which works closely with the Community Library, will also be informed of this collection. Access to these digitized collections will be demonstrated by reference staff during interactions with adult and juvenile patrons.

At least one program featuring an automated presentation of the digitized collections will also be held to introduce these materials to the community-at-large. Ongoing publicity by the Kenosha County Library System will occur through the KPL and Community Library Web sites and wide distribution of a descriptive flier. KPL Children's Services Division staff members communicate with public schools, private and parochial schools and teachers; they also conduct tours for students. Educators who work with hundreds of students on local history units each year will be made aware of these digitized resources.

Resources to be digitized from the Kenosha History Center Archives, Kenosha County Historical Society and Museum

Louis Thiers Glass Negative Collection

Louis Milton Thiers (1858-1950) donated his glass plate negatives to the Society in 1938 as well as notebooks and other items. The approximately 1,098 images primarily depict people, homes, buildings, businesses and industries, domestic and recreational scenes, animals, landscapes, and events in the city and county of Kenosha from the late 1880s into the early 1910s.

Louis Thiers Narrative Photograph Albums (scenes from family visits)

1. Adventures of 3 in Florida and the South. Album 2. 1921. 46 p. ; Album 4. 1921. 63 p.

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Marinette County Consolidated Public Library Service | 09-158 |
| Digitization of Yearbooks | \$1,800 |

The Stephenson Public Library is located in the city of Marinette, and is the main branch of seven housed throughout the county. At this branch, we are extremely fortunate to have several yearbooks that date back to 1919. These yearbooks are heavily used for genealogical research and other interests, and as a result have become quite worn. We would like to see these valuable resources preserved for generations to come. This is why we would like to see them added to the University of Wisconsin Digital Collections. We would like to digitize as much as possible, but we also realize that funds are limited. So therefore, we are asking to digitize our yearbooks from the years 1919-1924. We think that providing this will be a great service to our local community and statewide.

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Mount Horeb Public Library | 09-160 |
| World War II Veterans of Mount Horeb | \$2,000 |

The Mount Horeb Public Library proposes to contract the University of Wisconsin's Digital Collection Center (UWDCC) to host pre-existing digital oral histories and to digitize memorabilia (images, documents, letters, medals, books) of the remaining World War II veterans in Mount Horeb. The purpose of this project is to preserve and provide access to local history for research and educational opportunities. Our goal is to inform the community and beyond of the experiences, circumstances and memories of these men during World War II. By digitizing, hosting, and presenting the interviews and memorabilia in the UWDCC's State of Wisconsin Collection, the Mount Horeb Public Library will be able to create unique learning opportunities and access to information for their patrons that they otherwise would be unable to provide due to costs and staffing resources.

To date, the Mount Horeb Public Library (MHPL) has worked with the Mount Horeb Historical Society and American Legion to identify the remaining WWII veterans. Next, MHPL contacted UW Oral History Archivist, Troy Reeves, to learn about audio formats and best practices for conducting oral history interviews. MHPL then met with each veteran, solicited their agreement in the project, and set up interviews with each of them. MHPL also purchased a USB microphone to record the interviews with the

help of an iMac and the software program, GarageBand. The library has conducted 5 interviews to date and expects to complete the interview process by November 2008. The files will be saved in mp3 format. The mp3 files can be downloaded from the UWDC website. Furthermore, UWDC will make two CD copies of the oral histories. One copy of each history will circulate in the Mount Horeb library collection. The other copy will be given to the families of the veterans. Books, documents, letters, images (slides and photographs), medals and memorabilia have also been collected from the veterans. The Mount Horeb Public Library would like to turn these materials over to the UWDC for digitization and the creation of a pleasing and informative web presentation. The presentation would inform the public of experiences such as the sinking of the USS Indianapolis from a survivor's perspective, detonating land mines to protect other soldiers -- one infantryman's experience, and fighting in France from a runner's point-of-view. These kind of rich, personal histories are in danger of being altogether lost if they are not carefully stored and presented to the public.

Winnebago Mental Health Institute 09-162
Opening the Doors: WI Mental Health Heritage \$5,000

The Julaine Farrow Museum, located at Winnebago Mental Health Institute, houses a rich and robust historical record of mental health treatment in the state of Wisconsin. The museum is one of only 18 in the United States and the archives are viewed as a collection of historical information that reflects the culture and treatment methods for the mentally ill at the latter part of the 19th century, continuing into the present. All the records from 1873 on are in paper format and are becoming quite fragile.

The project proposes to add the hospital's annual reports for the state of WI FY 1959 to 1974 into the Wisconsin Collections site. Currently, the reports are in paper only and available in a complete set at the Julaine Farrow Museum. Citizens of Wisconsin would benefit as it documents the various changes in the treatment of the mentally ill over a 25 year period. We chose the report years listed above since previous years have been already been digitized and are already available. The information in the newer reports would then be available to anyone, anywhere, anytime. This project will protect fragile and well-used local history materials, provide maximum access to WMHI earliest reports, and expand the public awareness of WMHI, its history and treatments of the mentally ill.

Health Information

South Central Library System 09-164
Health Information for Elderly and Caregivers \$6,000

As the population ages, more and more individuals will find themselves in the position of caring for an aging parent or other loved one. The problem is universal, and Wisconsin is no exception. The purpose of this grant is to enable the South Central Library System (SCLS) to provide training and information for member libraries to help them meet the health information needs of the elderly in their community and their families.

We will survey our libraries about their needs for health information related to caring for the elderly. We will include questions about various aspects of the topic, including, but not necessarily limited to: disorders, medication, and medical and social services resources available, whether locally, countywide, statewide, or nationally.

Based on what we learn from the survey about the libraries' information needs, we will design training, with the help of the Ebling Library, the health sciences library at the University of Wisconsin Madison.

We will offer an in-person “overview” workshop twice—at the SCLS office in Madison, and again in a library in the northern part of SCLS. This will be followed by a minimum of three shorter (30 to 45 minute) sessions, each on one specific aspect of the topic. These will be offered online, using our web conferencing capabilities of OPAL (Online Programming for All Libraries). We will create an online toolkit that libraries and the public can continue to refer to after the project ends.

A 2006 report from CBS News contains the following quote: "You either are a caregiver, will be a caregiver or someone will be caring for you between now and whenever you die." Libraries are perfectly poised to be institutions that help prepare citizens for this inevitability, and this grant will provide training and resources that will assist participating libraries in taking on this role.

Waukesha County Federated Library System
Health Information Access

09-166
\$8,000

The reference and special needs librarians of the Waukesha County Federated Library System met with the Waukesha Memorial Hospital medical library director in 2007 to discuss ways to raise awareness about health care resources. WCFLS contracts with the Waukesha Memorial Hospital medical library to provide enhanced medical reference service to member libraries. One of the major concerns expressed was that there are a lot of medical resources both in print and online: how do patrons know when they have found credible online resources?

About the same time, the Greater Waukesha Literacy Council director and board president (a representative of Aurora Health Care) attended the Health Literacy Summit held by Wisconsin Literacy to exchange ideas on how to improve the delivery of health care information to adults with low literacy and limited English speaking skills. The Literacy Council started exploring the possibility of a health literacy project. The term health literacy refers to the degree to which individuals have the capacity to obtain and understand basic health information and services needed to make appropriate health decisions.

WCFLS staff recognized an opportunity to bring public libraries into this expanding discussion of access to health information since public librarians are often viewed as a resource for health information. The 2009 LSTA Health Information Awareness and Access category presents an opportunity to further develop this initiative within Waukesha County.

The objectives of this project include: 1) Conduct a needs assessment to determine health literacy and health information needs in Waukesha County; 2) Based upon results of the assessment, develop an online health information resource useful to public library reference staff, literacy tutors, health care providers, and the general public; 3) Provide training about health resources to public library staff, literacy tutors, and health care providers by offering a workshop with a speaker from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (National Library of Medicine) ; 4) Conduct public awareness campaign of developed resources.

Winding Rivers Library System
Health-E Libraries in Western Wisconsin

09-168
\$4,727

The Winding Rivers Library System (WRLS) proposes to arrange training for area librarians, conducted by trainers from the two major health institutions in our area, Gundersen Lutheran Health System and Franciscan Skemp Healthcare. These two organizations are currently partnering with the La Crosse Area Community Literacy Coalition to administer a grant from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine

(NNLM) called “Great Rivers Partners for Health-E People,” a health literacy awareness and education project.

In its report, *Health Literacy: A Prescription to End Confusion* (2004), the Institute of Medicine (IOM) defines health literacy as “the degree to which individuals have the capacity to obtain, process, and understand basic health information and service needed to make appropriate health decisions.”

WRLS will host a workshop conducted by the NNLM grant trainers, on the topics of health literacy awareness and online health resource recommendations. We will invite all our public library members and two other health institutions in our area: the Tomah Veterans Administration Health Sciences Library, and the Scenic Bluffs Community Health Center. This training will include guidance for public librarians on presenting a library program to promote online health resources in their communities, and instruction on conducting a health reference interview.

Eleven WRLS libraries (representing 15 locations) have agreed to present a program in their communities featuring the health information resources demonstrated in the workshop. They will place at least one health information link on their library’s web site in 2009, and at least one more in 2010. They will evaluate and weed their current medical information holdings, and will add, and promote, several new “consumer-friendly” recommended print health resources to their collections.

In 1998, approximately 73 billion extra US dollars were spent as a result of problems arising from low health literacy. Health literacy is beginning to be recognized as one of the key factors determining people’s success or failure with healthcare. By capitalizing on this existing grant, and collaborating with area health organizations, WRLS will assist public librarians in our region to update their knowledge of health literacy issues and health resources, and will enable them to provide improved services, and access to current health information, for their patrons.

Innovative Use of Technology

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Indianhead Federated Library System | 09-170 |
| Provide Federated Searching for Database Products | \$20,000 |

Library patrons have access to databases that their library subscribes to, they have access to databases that the System subscribes to and they have access to databases that the State subscribes to. What they don't have is a user-friendly way to use those databases. They have to follow different routes to get to each database. Once there, they have to deal with different interfaces, many of which are quite confusing. Librarians also face problems with this setup. They have few tools when it comes to databases to help them make collection development or end-user training decisions.

The Indianhead Federated Library System would like to implement a federated searching solution. This would help to solve the several challenges that information consumers and librarians face with the current system of multiple databases. It will allow libraries in the Indianhead Federated Library System (IFLS) to provide more successful searching, keep track of which databases are most useful, and allow for consistent and reliable authentication. Federated searching will ultimately make it easier for librarians and consumers alike to find relevant information in a timely manner.

Northern Waters Library Service
Developing Websites for Small Libraries

09-172
\$7,229

Web Junction lists nine things a website can do for a library:

- Transmit its message to many more people than older forms of outreach.
- Give patrons access to the Online Public Access Catalog from home.
- Attract new patrons.
- Conduct surveys and transmit valuable data into a database server.
- Display documents such as policies, news, directories, or proposals.
- Keep current information accessible to the public.
- Display employment and volunteer opportunities.
- Include valuable resources in one area (e.g., related links).
- Help build communication and community among the library and its patrons and the general public.

The WebJunction list of purposes for a library website should not be new to any public librarian or library trustee. Unfortunately, many of the libraries served by Northern Waters Library Service (NWLS) either do not have a website at all or their sites do not meet these purposes. Currently 8 of the 29 NWLS member libraries do not have a website. Of the 21 that do have a website, four are out of date and four include only basic directory information such as the library's address and phone number. Just 13 of the 29 libraries, fewer than half, have an up-to-date website that provides current information on library services and programs.

NWLS plans to create websites for use by its member libraries. NWLS staff will design no fewer than four websites for member library use. Each library may choose a design and color scheme for its site. NWLS will add photographs to the individual sites in order to give them a customized look and feel. NWLS will also train staff at each library to edit and update the content on their individual sites using content management software. This will permit each library to have a website for which it controls the content and for which it can maintain current information without outside intervention.

Outagamie Waupaca Library System
InfoSoup To Go

09-174
\$20,000

This project proposal, which is being submitted by the Outagamie Waupaca Library System (OWLS), is a joint project of OWLS and the Nicolet Federated Library System (NFLS).

This project will address three areas of need for the residents of the ten counties in Northeast Wisconsin served by the OWLSnet (a consortium providing a shared library system to libraries in the OWLS and NFLS library systems). First, it will enable us to provide information and services on the mobile web, in a friendly, easy-to-navigate format. Second, since individuals who are using the mobile web are more likely to be teens and young adults, it will enable us to more effectively reach that population. Third, it will allow us to position ourselves as an information provider for the next generation, by being an early provider in a service that while very popular world-wide, is just starting to take off in the U.S. All of these needs can be addressed by installing AirPAC, an OPAC designed for mobile web devices, such as smartphones and PDAs – or what we're calling "InfoSoup To Go!"

As libraries, we need to continue to make sure our services are relevant and are reaching patrons where they are. Increasingly, it's clear that they are moving to the mobile web. The use of smart phones that can surf the web (such as the iPhone) has increased from about 6 million in 2006 to 13.3 million in 2007, and is expected to top 20 million in 2008. One of the primary uses of the mobile web is searching for

information. While InfoSoup (the OWLSnet OPAC) is popular and heavily used, the site is not optimized for the mobile web, and like all non-optimized sites can be difficult and clunky to use with a mobile device.

Those using the mobile web for all applications tend to be younger – adults aged 18 to 27 are more likely to own a cell phone, to use wireless data services, and to use wireless data services to search for information. Providing a useful, attractive mobile web OPAC will allow us to reach those who use their mobile devices for “everything” and so are unlikely to access our site in a traditional manner.

InfoSoup to Go! will greatly enhance library services to patrons with access to the mobile web – a number that’s growing every day. It will help establish us at a time when mobile web access is increasing, but many other information providers are not yet offering easy-to-use access to their services via smartphones and PDAs. It will also help us meet patrons where they are – out and about with their mobile phones (even in our libraries) without requiring them to find a computer to satisfy their hunger for answers.

OWLS staff will purchase and install AirPAC OPAC software from Innovative Interfaces. We will promote InfoSoup To Go! on the InfoSoup homepage and OWLSnet member library web sites, including creating a screencast and instructions for how to use the new service. We’ll also be creating posters for promoting InfoSoup to Go! in our libraries and in local communities. We will purchase two mobile devices for testing and demonstrating InfoSoup to Go! in member libraries.

OWLS and NFLS staff will survey patrons twice throughout the year to see if the patrons are aware of InfoSoup availability for their mobile device, and to see if patrons with mobile devices are using it, and finding it useful and easy to use.

Wireless Internet Access

| | |
|--|---------|
| Nicolet Federated Library System | 09-176 |
| NFLS 2009 Wireless Internet Access Project | \$3,500 |

This project will assist in enabling 7 libraries in primarily rural areas of the Nicolet Federated Library System service area to install wireless Internet access for library patrons. None of these libraries currently has wireless Internet access. This grant will provide funds that will be added to local funds that will make it possible for these libraries to successfully implement wireless Internet access for their patrons, thereby expanding the ability of the libraries to provide better service and increased access to library materials and databases.

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| South Central Library System | 09-178 |
| Wireless Internet Access, 2009 | \$3,500 |

The requested amount of \$3500 will allow us to put a new secure wireless system in 3 member public libraries (New Glarus, Cambridge, and Monticello) and will allow us to upgrade the service for 4 member libraries (Prairie du Sac, Plain, DeForest, and Brodhead).

For the new wireless libraries, grant funds will be used to purchase all components for the wireless system, including a wireless server, a wireless access point, and a wireless access point antenna, for a total cost of \$700. The libraries receiving upgraded service will only be receiving an updated wireless server, which costs more than \$500.

Winding Rivers Library System
Wireless WRLS, Part 2

09-180
\$1,000

The Wireless Connection category for 2008 allowed WRLS to cover the cost for the twenty-nine library participating in our shared technology network. WRLS pledged at the time of preparing that application that if the category was available for a second year, we would apply for assistance for the remaining five libraries in the system. Since these libraries are not connected to the shared network, they will be receiving wireless access through their commercial Internet Service Provider (ISP) and will need to acquire whatever hardware and software solutions are necessary directly from the local ISP. WRLS will facilitate the process of acquiring wireless capabilities and fund the solutions specified by the ISP using the LSTA grant funds.

While there are five libraries qualifying for this grant project, only two have chosen to take advantage of the opportunity. Therefore, the De Soto Public Library and the Independence Public Library will be the recipients of assistance in 2009, with each receiving the maximum allowable support of \$500.

Wisconsin Valley Library Service
WVLS Wireless Project, 2009

09-182
\$2,500

WVLS member public libraries have been discussing wireless possibilities for over four years due to the fact that libraries do not have the space nor the finances to provide enough PCs to keep up with the public's demand for convenient, high-speed Internet access. This grant, which is a continuation of the 2008 LSTA Wireless Grant, will enable the member public libraries in the Wisconsin Valley Library Service (WVLS) area that have not already implemented wireless technology to do so. Counties impacted by this grant include Clark, Forest, Langlade and Taylor.

Specifically, the grant will provide for each participating library the wireless appliance and its installation. Custom installations will be available for those libraries that need it and may require the library to contribute to a portion of those costs. Also, wireless installations may or may not be separate from the WVLS WAN. If the choice is to be separate from the WVLS WAN, participating libraries understand that they will have to use a separate local provider for this service. The wireless installation will support personal computing devices that people bring into the building. Those computing devices will need to have a wireless access card in them and the patrons will need to know how to use them.

WVLS will work with participating libraries to promote wireless services to the public and conduct a survey to determine the impact of wireless services in the library.

B. Special Needs

Accessibility

Arrowhead Library System
Arrowhead Libraries Become More Accessible

09-200
\$2,500

Creating accessible libraries is an ongoing project for the Arrowhead Library System Libraries. This grant will allow libraries to purchase equipment to assist people with a variety of disabilities, including mobility, loss of agility in the hands, low vision, and loss of hearing. This grant will make all seven libraries more accessible to library users. All seven libraries in the system have made a variety of accommodations to make their buildings and services more accessible. Five have buildings with

elevators. Six have accessible doors and bathrooms. One library is seeking a new location that will be accessible. All have purchased equipment, including accessible computer work stations, to make library users of all abilities welcome in the library.

Eastern Shores Library System 09-202
Adaptive Equipment for ESLS Libraries \$2,600

The overall purpose of this grant is to help member libraries provide increased service to people with special needs by providing adaptive equipment for their libraries and helping member libraries prepare for aging populations. By doing this project ESLS continues its mission to improve and extend public library service to all residents of the library system.

This grant application is submitted on behalf of all 13 public libraries in Eastern Shores Library System.

Major activities will include ordering equipment, installation if necessary and marketing of the service.

Feedback from member libraries will be used in 6 month and final evaluation and in all future planning for ESLS special needs projects.

Indianhead Federated Library System 09-204
Electronic Door Openers \$3,300

In June 2008, the Indianhead Federated Library System (IFLS) surveyed its member libraries to determine the best way to spend the funds for accessibility equipment. The majority of librarians felt that providing better access to people with mobility issues was the greatest area of need, and electronic door openers was the most requested piece of equipment. Due to the price of door openers, IFLS decided to provide assistance for two member libraries purchasing door openers.

IFLS then requested information from libraries to determine which ones had the best plan for publicizing and funding the door openers. The Pepin and River Falls Public Libraries will be receiving assistance to add electronic door openers. They both will work with local nursing homes and senior housing facilities, among others, to publicize the door openers.

Door openers will be installed during the first half of 2009. IFLS will provide assistance with finding vendors and assuring ADA compliance. Libraries will publicize the door openers, and will collect anecdotal evidence about their value.

Kenosha Public Library 09-206
Accessible Workstation—Kenosha \$2,500

Kenosha Public Library is applying on behalf of Kenosha County Library System for \$2500.00 for assistive technology software and equipment to improve computer and Internet accessibility for patrons with visual impairment.

The funds will be used to purchase:

- 17" monitor laptop computer to be used exclusively by visually impaired patrons
- JAWS (Job Access With Speech), a screen reading program produced by Freedom Scientific -- translates Microsoft Windows personal computer text to voice
- MAGic, a screen magnifier program also produced by Freedom Scientific -- magnifies print and images on screen

- Adaptive peripherals as needed and as funds permit, including a full size keyboard, track ball mouse, and easily adjustable headphones

The resulting workstation will be housed at Northside Library, Kenosha Public Library's primary location for Special Needs materials and equipment. Kenosha Public Library staff will hardwire a study room for use with the workstation and set up the equipment when requested for use. Visually impaired patrons will present their library cards to use the workstation in-house. The computer will be filtered for use by patrons under 18 years of age. Staff will promote this accessible workstation to visually-impaired individuals, and to local agencies and professionals who serve them.

This project will fulfill Strategy #3: Diversify Collection and Services cited in Adults With Special Needs Resource and Planning Guide for Wisconsin's Public Libraries. It will provide improved "access for Adults with Special Needs to library resources and programs through technology" by providing additional "assistive technology where needed to ensure access to electronic resources."

The need for this adaptive technology was made apparent early in 2007 when a visually impaired patron requested assistance in accessing the Internet and other electronic resources at a public access workstation. Unable to provide this accessibility, library staff called a meeting in May 2007 to explore technological options with the patron, library staff, and representatives of local and state agencies, including Wisconsin Office for the Blind and Visually Impaired, and Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development's Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. These representatives and their agencies will be primary sources for advertising the accessible workstation to the blind community, in addition to KPL's normal publicity channels.

Staff from Community Library, the other public library in Kenosha County Library System, agrees there is a need for such technology county-wide. Key staff members from both Kenosha Public Library and Community Library will be invited to visit Northside Library for basic training in the equipment and software. MP3 audio training is included in the software's purchase price, and will be available for self-paced training for staff and patrons. Patrons needing additional or more in-depth training will be referred to appropriate agencies.

| | |
|---|---------|
| Lakeshores Library System | 09-208 |
| Improving Accessibility with Add-On Touch Screens | \$2,800 |

"Improving Accessibility with Add-On Touch Screens" will enable the member libraries of Lakeshores Library System to reach a wider number of patrons in their communities who do not know how to use a computer mouse and those who have difficulty using a mouse. Examples of these individuals include very young children or others who are unable to use a traditional mouse due to disabilities, and people such as seniors who have difficulty manipulating a mouse.

This project includes the following activities:

- 1) Purchasing an add-on touch screen for computer monitors for all 15 Lakeshores member libraries.
- 2) Installing the add-on touch screens and training staff in their use.
- 3) Providing additional training in accessibility issues to library staff and trustees.
- 4) Collaborating with local agencies and schools to market the availability of the add-on touch screens.
- 5) Publicizing the add-on touch screens through the local media and brochures.

This is an excellent opportunity to bring another level of accessibility to all of the libraries in Lakeshores Library System.

Manitowoc-Calumet Library System
MCLS Accessibility in Public Libraries

09-210
\$2,300

This project will help the Manitowoc-Calumet Library System (MCLS) and its six member libraries in purchasing and installing adaptive technology in the form of 19" screens for patrons with vision impairments, and 4 wheel walkers for those with mobility problems.

LSTA funds will be used to pay for the 19" I-INC monitor screens for the MCLS six member libraries at a cost of approximately \$180.00 each with shipping and handling included. The LCD monitors feature a 700:1 contrast ratio, 8ms response time, 1280 x 1024 SXGA resolution, excellent pixel pitch and brightness and a convenient VGA connection.

The grant also will pay for 4-wheel walkers for all 6 of the System's member libraries. The walkers will enhance access to each libraries collection for those users who suffer from mobility problems, and will accommodate those between 5'3" – 6 feet tall, weighing up to 300lbs. A basket for books or media is located in the front of the walker and the walker has a seat that the patron can use while deciding on their library item choice. The walkers, which are called "Walkabout Contour Rollators" (WCR's), weigh only 12 pounds and have 8" wheels for smooth handling. The WCR's cost is approximately \$180.00 each with shipping and handling included.

MCLS will assist all member libraries in the procurement of both these accessibility items, training staff in their use and in promoting them to the appropriate target groups within their service area. This will be accomplished through fliers, open houses, in-kind staff support, mileage reimbursements through in-kind continuing education grants, networking with local Special Needs agencies and other collaborations.

Mid-Wisconsin Federated Library System
Adaptive Equipment for Selected Libraries

09-212
\$2,900

During the 2005-2007 LSTA grant cycle years MWFLS received three grants to incorporate the libraries of the system area into one shared automation system. All but eight of the twenty-seven libraries received adaptive workstation equipment in order to participate in the grants. Brownsville, Fox Lake, Horicon, Hustisford, Juneau, Lomira, Randolph, and Theresa public libraries had received benefit from an earlier LSTA automation grant and were not eligible to participate (in the funding process not the project). Because of this, these libraries did not receive the adaptive equipment the other nineteen libraries did. It will be the purpose of this grant to provide as much adaptive workstation equipment as possible within the constraints of the funding available.

Major activities will include purchasing the equipment, delivery, set up at the libraries, and providing any training and publicity that is needed.

Milwaukee County Federated Library System
Accessibility in Public Libraries

09-214
\$4,700

MCFLS plans to utilize the 2009 Accessibility in Public Libraries Grant funds toward purchasing and installing adaptive equipment needed to increase accessibility for people of all ages who have vision, mobility, or hearing loss difficulties. The system will provide the necessary support needed for staff to use the equipment and the system will assist participating libraries as needed with the use of appropriate marketing techniques to help reach the targeted audience. Each of our 15 member libraries is being allocated up to \$300 grant funds for the purchase of adaptive equipment. Any adaptive equipment desired by a particular library which exceeds the \$300 ceiling can still be purchased, but local

funds from the library must be used for any costs over \$300. MCFLS supplied a list of possible equipment as well as some catalogs from adaptive equipment websites. Libraries then made their own choices.

The 15 MCFLS libraries have made the following choices for vision-related and/or mobility adaptive equipment:

- Brown Deer Public Library - Large Key Keyboard, Large Trackball Mouse (visual, mobility)
- Cudahy Family Library- Large Key Keyboard, Large Trackball Mouse, Voice Recognition Software (visual, mobility)
- Franklin Public Library- 19" Flat Panel Computer Monitor (visual)
- Greendale Public Library - 19" Flat Panel Computer Monitor (visual)
- Greenfield Public Library - 19" Flat Panel Computer Monitor (visual)
- Hales Corners Public Library - Large Key Keyboard, Large Trackball Mouse (visual, mobility)
- Milwaukee Public Library - 19" Flat Panel Computer Monitor (visual)
- North Shore Library - 19" Flat Panel Computer Monitor (visual)
- Oak Creek Public Library - 19" Flat Panel Computer Monitor (visual)
- St Francis Public Library - 19" Flat Panel Computer Monitor (visual)
- Shorewood Public Library - Touch screen monitor, mini-shopping cart (mobility)
- South Milwaukee Public Library - 19" Flat Panel Computer Monitor (visual)
- Wauwatosa Public Library - 19" Flat Panel Computer Monitor (visual)
- West Allis Public Library - 19" Flat Panel Computer Monitor (visual)
- Whitefish Bay Public Library - 19" Flat Panel Computer Monitor (visual)

Combined shipping costs for all libraries - \$200

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| Nicolet Federated Library System | 09-216 |
| Accessible Game Systems | \$3,200 |

This is a project to make available handicap accessible gaming controllers, games, and other adaptive equipment to go along with NFLS game system components available to all NFLS member libraries. With this additional equipment, library-sponsored gaming activities will be open to all participants, regardless of ability.

| | |
|--|---------|
| Northern Waters Library Service | 09-218 |
| NWLS Accessibility in Public Libraries | \$2,400 |

This project will assist NWLS member libraries in providing adaptive equipment to help patrons with mobility, vision, and/or hearing disabilities use the library.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| Outagamie Waupaca Library System | 09-220 |
| Wheeled Walkers for Member Libraries | \$2,700 |

A recent survey of OWLS member libraries revealed that only two of seventeen member library locations have wheeled walkers available for use by patrons. While all of these libraries have accessible entrances, the availability of wheeled walkers would make these libraries more physically accessible to people who have physical disabilities. Consequently, OWLS proposes to use LSTA funding to purchase a wheeled walker, with a seat and a basket, for the Black Creek, Clintonville, Fremont, Hortonville, Iola, Kaukauna, Kimberly, Little Chute, Manawa, Marion, New London, Scandinavia, Shiocton, Seymour, and Weyauwega public libraries.

South Central Library System
Accessibility in Public Libraries

09-222
\$4,200

The South Central Library System's (SCLS) Accessibility in Public Libraries 2009 LSTA grant will provide funds for SCLS member libraries to purchase adaptive technologies and other adaptive devices to upgrade public computer workstations. SCLS and participating member libraries will work with community organizations to identify target audience, to identify appropriate adaptive technologies and devices, to train library staff and to help market new library devices, resources and programs to target audience.

The 7 counties served by SCLS greatly vary from one another and the needs of our member libraries are very diverse. Participating libraries will clearly identify the specific resources, adaptive technologies and devices they need to deliver the best possible service to their patrons with special needs. For some libraries this will be installing upgraded screen reader software; other libraries will need to purchase large monitors or keyboard cords longer than 72 inches. The intent of this grant is to make it easier for patrons with special needs to visit and use the resources of their public libraries.

Southwest Wisconsin Library System
Accessibility in SW Public Libraries

09-224
\$2,400

This grant will allow the member public libraries in the Southwest Wisconsin Library System to address accessibility issues for those patrons with low vision. Each of the 28 member libraries will receive 9 handheld magnifiers (5 illuminated, 2 magnifying sheets and 2 bar magnifiers). These handheld magnifiers are intended to assist patrons with low vision in using library materials. This grant will also help to standardize accessibility equipment among the 28 member libraries.

Waukesha County Federated Library System
WCFLS Accessibility in Public Libraries

09-226
\$3,100

The purpose of this project is to promote and demonstrate the role public libraries play in meeting the information needs of people with disabilities. Funds being applied for will be used by the Waukesha County Federated Library System to assist member libraries with purchasing and installing adaptive equipment needed to increase accessibility for people of all ages who need enhanced lighting in order to read in libraries.

The Waukesha County Federated Library System is proposing to spend the \$3,100 in this noncompetitive category on full spectrum lights/lamps to accommodate people with a vision loss unless other requests for adaptive equipment are received.

Full spectrum light provides an alternative to the fluorescent lighting typically found in public libraries. Fluorescent lighting has a yellow-green tint and is a strain on eyes. Full spectrum lighting provides truer and clearer colors, white and blacks are also clearer and contrast is sharper: seeing, reading and viewing is generally considered to be easier with full spectrum lighting.

Two surveys were conducted among library directors and special needs committee members to determine needs in this category.

This project involves three objectives: 1) Increase the opportunity for individuals with vision impairments to more effectively use library resources by increasing the amount of full spectrum lighting available at participating member libraries; 2) Increase awareness of the availability and importance of full spectrum lighting in libraries; and, 3) Increase library staff members' awareness of services to individuals with vision loss by offering in-service to member libraries on how to use full spectrum

lighting, if needed, and also to raise awareness of services available to member libraries and their users regarding vision loss.

**Winding Rivers Library System
Accessibility Assistance**

**09-228
\$2,800**

Winding Rivers Library System is providing an opportunity for five member libraries, in Black River Falls, Elroy, Westby, Whitehall, and Wilton, to add assistive equipment to make their services more accessible to persons with vision and mobility disabilities.

Each library will receive a 22" computer monitor, for effectively displaying enlarged fonts, to accommodate persons with low vision. Black River Falls Public Library will receive a large print keyboard with a built-in trackball, and screen magnification and reader software, for persons with low or no vision. The same large print keyboards will also be installed in the libraries in Westby, Whitehall, and Wilton. Portable magnifiers will be provided for Elroy, Westby, Whitehall, and Wilton. Wilton Public Library will also receive a wheeled walker with a basket, to enable persons with mobility disabilities to comfortably use the library.

Library staff will receive training in using the equipment, and will demonstrate it in programs in their communities. Large print "help sheets," developed for the project, will assist patrons to use the equipment.

**Winnefox Library System
Winnefox Accessibility Grant project**

**09-230
\$2,900**

Winnefox intends to offer a grant program to member libraries to achieve the purposes of this grant. Grant funds will be supplemented by an equal amount of system funds. Libraries will be asked to match grant funds with up to three-fourths of the project costs coming from local funds.

Libraries will be required to submit an application explaining how the funds will be used, how staff will be trained, how the project will be publicized, marketed and evaluated, and how other community groups will be involved.

In the case of more funds being requested than available a committee of representative library directors will evaluate the applications and recommend which libraries should receive grants.

**Wisconsin Valley Library Service
System Accessibility—WVLS**

**09-232
\$2,800**

WVLS will assist its member public libraries by purchasing and installing technology and other adaptive equipment needed to increase accessibility for people of all ages who have mobility, vision, and/or hearing disabilities. As part of the needs assessment process, librarians were surveyed regarding their library's current accessibility and were asked to provide a "wish list" for items which would help to make their library more accessible. The average allocation for each of the 25 member public libraries will be \$110.

WVLS will purchase wheeled walker carts, trackballs, large print keyboards, reachers, magnifiers, computer screen magnifiers, and Dragon Naturally Speaking software to meet the needs expressed by individual member libraries. Technology staff from WVLS will provide any training needed to use the equipment effectively

Adult, Family, and Early Literacy

Dane County Library Service

09-234

Outreach to the Juvenile Detention Center

\$9,898

This grant will address the literacy needs of at-risk youth who are residents of the Dane County Juvenile Detention Center. In 2006 approximately 559 youth were housed in Detention. Almost 73% of juveniles in Detention were classified as minorities. The average age of those residing in the Juvenile Detention Center is 15 years old. A large percentage of youth in Detention struggle with literacy and many are working to overcome learning disabilities. This grant seeks to provide the Juvenile Detention Center with a wide array of literacy options and training for their residents. To ensure our success in reaching out to this at-risk special needs population, this grant collaborates with very strong partners: Madison Metropolitan School District and The Juvenile Detention Center.

The objectives of this grant are: Objective 1. To encourage literacy among incarcerated youth by providing the Dane County Juvenile Detention Center with a deposit collection of high interest/low reading level books for a targeted population of 559. Objective 2. To provide the Dane County Juvenile Detention Center with literacy and literacy support materials in various formats for a targeted population of 559. Objective 3. To create and maintain a web site of Dane County Juvenile Detention Center resident created creative writing. Objective 4. To increase the awareness of public library resources for reading and independent learning by providing a targeted population of 559 Dane County Juvenile Detention Center residents with Linkcat online catalog training sessions and library card sign up. Objective 5. To increase staff understanding and sensitivity to juvenile offenders by attending the Correctional Education Association International Conference. The objectives of this grant will provide us with a framework of books, materials and training that will support the diverse literacy needs of at risk minors.

Because many of the Detention youth struggle with learning disabilities, it's important to provide access to literacy materials tailored to a variety of needs. This grant will increase the number of high interest/low level reading materials available to youth in the Detention Center. Current literacy materials in the Detention Center are inadequate to meet the varied needs of residents. This grant will also supply students with access to audio books in both CD and MP3 formats. By providing Detention youth with reading materials in various accessible formats, this grant will enable students to sharpen their literacy skills. Many of the youth in Detention do not consider themselves "Readers" and have not enjoyed previous academic success. By providing a myriad of literacy materials in various formats, this grant will provide youth with an opportunity to have positive literacy experiences.

We will also provide LinkCat online library catalog training and the opportunity to sign up for library cards. Many youth in Detention are nontraditional library users and may be unfamiliar with the free services offered by the public library.

This grant will also provide youth with the opportunity to contribute to a web site showcasing Detention Center resident writing. Reading and writing skills go hand in hand and this web site, which will feature staff approved student writing, will be used as a motivational tool to showcase Detention Center resident work.

Research has long shown that literacy can be the cornerstone to success for at risk youth. This project will support the literacy needs of youth in custody at the Dane County Juvenile Detention Center. This grant offers long term results by providing at risk youth with knowledge that will allow them to look upon the public library as a free resource that will offer support when they return to the community.

Eastern Shores Library System

09-236

Developing a Library for Jailbound Youth

\$7,593

Imagine you are a 14 year-old male walking into a library/classroom. The shelves aren't tall enough for you to browse without bending or squatting. If you are lucky you might find the first Harry Potter book, but your other choices are limited to westerns, romances or other donated items that adults didn't want. No graphic novels, no Artemis Fowl, no Alex Rider and certainly nothing in another language. These are the choices now available to more than 400 juveniles annually at the Sheboygan County Juvenile Detention Center.

ESLS has seen first hand the benefit of providing library materials to inmates through its continued efforts of meeting the literacy needs of adult inmates at the Sheboygan County Detention Center (SCDC). Recently, when asked, David, an inmate from the SCDC responded, "Reading brings wisdom, wisdom breeds less criminal activity. It is the guys that are reading that get inspired to lead a better life." "I am fifty years young and never read a book cover to cover," commented another inmate. "With this program and the help from the instructors, I have read thirty-two books not including the GED education books and have passed three of the GED tests." With this grant ESLS hopes to mirror that success with young adults.

This grant will provide the youth housed at the facility with an age appropriate library to promote reading with a more welcoming and stimulating environment and will focus on the education and leisure interests of the detained youth. Materials will include several magazine subscriptions, high interest-low vocabulary readers, and duplicate copies of high interest books in both English and Spanish. Staff will also attempt to find materials in Hmong and Bosnian languages. This project will also afford the purchase of the latest edition of GED preparation materials in English and Spanish and basic reference materials, i.e., a set encyclopedias. To establish an inviting library environment, a magazine rack and six foot shelving will be purchased and installed.

ESLS will partner with the Sheboygan Area School District's Jailbound Program, the Sheboygan South High Library Media Specialist, and the Sheboygan County Juvenile Detention staff. Some materials will directly support the curriculum. Many of the students have a learning disability, an emotional disability, are from low-income families or are a minority.

Fond du Lac Public Library

09-238

Collaborating for Literacy

\$13,480

"Collaborating for Literacy" is a partnership between the Fond du Lac Public Library (FDLPL), Moraine Park Technical College (MPTC), Fond du Lac Adult Literacy Services, and Marian University to promote family literacy to low income families including those for whom English is a second language. Though all students/families with children enrolled in the Moraine Park Technical College day care center will benefit from this collaboration, Spanish speaking parents enrolled in the MPTC "English as a Second Language" and basic education classes are the primary target of the collaboration.

FDLPL will establish a Satellite Service Outlet in the MPTC Library that includes a variety of children's materials along with books of interest to parents. Material will be in both English and Spanish. MPTC Library staff will check out material to customers directly on the Winnefox Automated Library System through a VPN connection. The intent is to introduce library services to a population that has not had experience using libraries. Customers will be issued standard FDLPL borrower cards that are good at the main library as well as for the MPTC Satellite collection; however, customers registered at MPTC will not be charged fees or fines during the trial period. The MPTC Satellite will serve as a prototype for possible similar centers in the Boys and Girls Club, Family Resource Center, Headstart, and others.

Programming will be an integral part of the collaboration. Students from the Marian University Education Program will provide weekly storytimes through the Marian University Service Learning Program. The storytimes will be designed to sell the idea of parents and children reading together. In order to promote the benefits of reading to a racially/ethnically diverse population, one storytime each month will be delivered by "Readers Like Me" volunteers -- successful community members who are people of color, new immigrants, or those who have lifted themselves out of poverty through education. Examples of such volunteers may be an African American policeman or an Hispanic nurse. The objective is to have children and their parents identify with those promoting reading. Some programming will be directed only to parents. At least one class session each semester from the ESL program will be held at the main Fond du Lac public library building to encourage parents to use the services available from the main library. At least one orientation program at FDLPL will be held for students in the Basic Education Center as well. FALS students will be invited to the program even though FALS is headquartered in FDLPL. FDLPL programs will include incentives such as food and child care to entice parents to attend.

Developing a love of books in children is one of the goals of the collaboration. Many students serviced by Fond du Lac Adult Literacy Services (FALS) go on to enroll at MPTC both for GED and vocational training. FALS is the first stop for many students for whom English is a second language who then progress to the MPTC classes. FALS provides literacy instruction for parents, giving them the necessary skills to read to their children. In addition, FALS is a participant in the First Book Program which provides free books to social agencies for children to keep. Children enrolled in the MPTC Daycare will receive books to keep through this program. (Grant funds are not being used for give away books.)

Though a relationship exists between FALS and the MPTC Basic Education Center, many FALS students do not do well in large institutions and are concerned about visiting MPTC. It is hoped that by encouraging FALS students to bring their children or grandchildren to MPTC story times, more FALS students will become comfortable with MPTC as an institution and be willing to continue their education there. The MPTC library, where the story hours will be held, is right across the hall from the Basic Education Center.

**Indianhead Federated Library System
Expanding Opportunities Together**

**09-240
\$16,840**

In order to address the needs of people experiencing poverty and unemployment, the Indianhead Federated Library System and 30 participating libraries will collaborate with Job Centers and literacy providers throughout the region to provide resources and programming.

Libraries are uniquely situated to expand the availability of access to job search and basic education resources. Reliable transportation is a perennial problem for people experiencing economic hardships, and making a trip to the county seat can be an insurmountable obstacle to obtaining resources. In addition, libraries provide free internet access, which draws young people who are out of work and out of school.

Workforce Resource, which manages Job Center services in eight IFLS counties, and Northwest Wisconsin Concentrated Employment Program, which manages services in the other two counties, are very interested in working with local public libraries. The Department of Workforce Development Job Service in Pierce and St. Croix Counties has recently made a transition to a mobile office, and is already working with some libraries to provide outreach services. These agencies will help promote library use with their clients, provide expertise about job readiness and financial literacy titles for libraries to purchase, and in some cases provide job readiness workshops for clients at the libraries. In addition,

staff from participating libraries and staff from the Job Center that serves their county will have the opportunity to visit each others' sites to meet and see the resources offered by each site.

Participating libraries will receive funds to purchase job-seeking, financial literacy, and adult basic education titles. Local literacy providers (Northern Waters Literacy Council, Chippewa Valley Literacy Volunteers and Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College) will provide assistance in selecting useful resources and in promoting the library collections through contacts with students, tutors, and jails. In conjunction with Workforce Resource staff, IFLS will develop a web-based resource for job-seekers, and participating libraries will link to it from their web sites. Some participating libraries will also provide basic computer workshops, using a laptop computer lab from IFLS. These workshops will be promoted by Job Center staff.

Librarians and other agency staff are eager to work together to expand the opportunities of the people in their communities. This grant project will allow them to do just that.

| | |
|--|---------|
| Hedberg Public Library | 09-242 |
| Listening for Literacy: Improving Adolescent Reading Proficiency | \$7,200 |

The Adolescent Literacy Initiative for Public Libraries addresses declining reading proficiency as students move beyond elementary school to middle and high school. Research has shown that listening to literature through audiobooks "fosters reading comprehension, fluency, language acquisition, vocabulary development and improved achievement." (Grover and Hannegan. "Not Just for Listening: Integrating Audiobooks into the Curriculum." Book Links, May 2005, p. 16). Becoming a Nation of Readers: The Report of the Commission on Reading (1985) states that "the single most important activity for success in reading is reading aloud to children." Audiobooks accomplish this goal for middle and high school readers. Additionally, audiobooks serve "...to introduce students to books above their reading level, to model good interpretative reading, to teach the much-neglected skill of critical listening, to show children the humor in books (something they often miss), and to get kids past such difficult hurdles as unfamiliar dialects, nonstandard English, old-fashioned literary styles, and unusual vocabularies." (Varley, The Horn Book Magazine, May/June 2002, p. 254.)

This grant envisions a regional workshop for public and school librarians to introduce the use of audiobooks in school curricula as well as for pleasure reading. Nationally recognized experts in using audiobooks with adolescents will present sessions on:

- Research-based evidence of literacy development and improvement using audiobooks.
- Model programs for listening and literacy development, particularly with English Language Learners (ELL).
- Pairing audiobook titles with the Wisconsin Model Academic Standards.
- Using audiobooks to draw adolescents to reading for pleasure.
- Evaluation and acquisition methods for building audiobook collections for teens, including new and changing technologies.
- Encouraging greater collaborative efforts between public and school librarians and teachers by sharing knowledge and collections.
- Exploring new technologies to cultivate interest in listening to audiobooks among adolescents.
- Marketing techniques to promote the use of audiobook collections in public and school libraries.

The grant administrator has written articles and presented at national workshops on audiobooks and their use with students, particularly in the arena of integrating audiobooks into the curriculum. Her

knowledge of the subject matter, of nationally recognized speakers, and of the audiobook industry will be helpful in shaping the workshop and attracting presenters.

Librarians and educators will benefit from the opportunity to attend a comprehensive workshop on audiobooks and literacy that will foster awareness of the advantages of listening to literature, including increased reading proficiency among middle and high school students. The project will coordinate with and further the goals of the multi-year initiative through the Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning (DLTCL).

Kenosha Public Library

09-244

Using Music to Promote Reading and Math Literacy

\$12,125

How can adults support the development of mathematical thinking and reading skills during the first five years of life? One way is to engage in musical experiences with young children. Research shows that music creates connections in the brain that later help children solve math problems. The research further shows that there is a natural link between musical activity and important instructional goals in early literacy. Douglas Fisher, Ph.D. and Associate Professor at San Diego State University where he teaches English language development and literacy states “within group musical activity, children learn as they read, write, comprehend, and express oral language within the highly active and engaging learning contexts music making provides.”

Music is a natural component of children’s programs and “Using Music to Promote Early Reading and Math Literacy” will address developmentally appropriate early reading and math skills that will be taught to daycare providers, educators, and librarians to use when working with young children, their parents, and caregivers through the use of music. Teen moms will also be included in the training in order to learn ways to incorporate early reading and math skills in activities that they do with their children.

Through appropriate continuing education workshops Kenosha County daycare providers, educators, and librarians will learn ways to incorporate early reading and math skills using music into their storytimes and activities they provide at their agencies for young children. Teen moms and parents will also participate in hands-on training programs with their children to learn these skills. Library staff members who work directly with young children will have the opportunity to participate in training workshops and hands-on training.

The workshop presenter will also work with Kenosha Public Library children’s services staff in developing a training DVD demonstrating the skills learned. The training DVD will then be distributed to daycares and be used in the public library to train early educators and parents how to use these skills with their children. Spanish language translators will be available as necessary.

Developmentally appropriate manipulative and sensory items, visual and audio format items, picture books, and non-fiction books, and teacher resource books will be purchased to be used to enhance early literacy skills among the target population. Materials lists will be compiled and distributed highlighting the titles purchased for children and adults.

The project administrator and library staff will market the infant, ones, toddler and preschool storytime programs that are already scheduled and presented at Kenosha Public Library and Community Library branches to the target audience and encourage parents to bring their children. Library staff will also promote the collections of books, audio and visual format materials, and manipulative items, which will circulate from our system libraries and encourage parents and daycare providers to visit their local library, acquire library cards and check out these materials. Library staff will further market library

services at the workshops and programs listed above, as well as at activities sponsored by the Early Childhood Consortium partners.

Kenosha Public Library staff along with members of the Early Childhood Consortium and the Kenosha Unified School District teen parenting program will achieve the objectives of this project by educating daycare providers, teen moms, librarians and parents on the importance of early literacy through hands-on literacy based workshops.

Lakeshores Library System

09-246

Library and Literacy Outreach for At-Risk Youth

\$27,600

“Library and Literacy Outreach to At-Risk Youth” will enhance the role of public libraries in the Lakeshores Library System and the Mid-Wisconsin Federation in the lives of adolescents and their families. This project will provide resources and training for the librarians at the member libraries in five counties in southeastern Wisconsin, and provide teens and their families the opportunity to share literacy experiences at their local library. Thirty-one libraries in the two systems will participate in the project. Lakeshores Library System and Mid-Wisconsin Federated Library System have been collaborating and sharing library system services since 2004. These services include continuing education coordination and consulting for youth services and special needs, and a shared automated library catalog. This project will support the ongoing collaboration between the two library systems, which include previously funded LSTA grants in 2005, 2006, 2007, and 2008, as well as the statewide adolescent literacy initiative, which “will champion high-quality teen services and build momentum behind Wisconsin's drive to create the most literate, well-educated citizenry and workforce in the nation.”

The members of Lakeshores and Mid-Wisconsin, the Racine Literacy Council and the Walworth County Literacy Council look forward to promoting library services and literacy outreach to adolescents and their families.

“Library and Literacy Outreach to At-Risk Youth” includes the following components:

- 1) Sponsor a workshop on library and literacy outreach to at-risk adolescents.
- 2) Host literacy programs at each library participating in the project.
- 3) Provide mini-grants to participating libraries to purchase adolescent literacy materials in a variety of formats.
- 4) Hire a Storywagon series performer for summer library programs in 2009.
- 5) Purchase profession collection material to benefit member libraries and their patrons.
- 6) Market services for adolescents and their families through the member libraries, literacy councils, and local media.
- 7) Create promotional materials describing library services geared toward at-risk youth and their families.

This is a great opportunity for Lakeshores Library System and Mid-Wisconsin Federated Library System member libraries to promote library services to at-risk youth and their families in their individual communities.

Northern Waters Library Service
Reaching Out to At-Risk Teens

09-248
\$17,200

Reaching Out to At-Risk Teens, is an LSTA grant designed to increase library services and programs for At-Risk teens by fostering a partnership with community agencies. In order to attract At-Risk teens, libraries must go out into the community where At-Risk teens gather and provide incentives that will bring them into the library. Increasing in-library attendance of At-Risk Youth will provide them with opportunity to make use of library services and programs and improve their literacy skills.

Because Reaching Out to At-Risk Teens will take place in multiple communities of varying size, each library will tailor the specifics of their collaborating agency, their programs and their services to suit the needs of their communities. This project will enable participating libraries to enhance existing and/or develop new services and programming targeted to at-risk teens. Grant funding will provide services, programs and purchase materials appropriate for adolescents.

The NWLS libraries and partnering agencies that will participate in this project are:

1. Vaughn Public Library, Ashland and Prentice House
2. Bad River Public Tribal Library and the Bad River Healthy Lifestyles (Homework help for at-risk teens)
3. Bayfield Carnegie Library and Bayfield Public School Special Education Program
4. Burnett Community Library and Webster Public School Title 1
5. Forest Lodge Public Library, Cable and Drummond Public School Special Education Program
6. Hayward Carnegie Library and the Sawyer County At-Risk Youth Program
7. Lac du Flambeau Public Library and the Lac du Flambeau Public School Special Education Program
8. LCO College Community Library and the LCO Boys and Girls Club
9. Mercer Public Library and the Mercer Public Schools Special Education Program
10. Phelps Public Library and the Phelps Public Schools Special Education Program
11. Shell Lake Public Library and the Washburn County Alternative School
12. Spooner Memorial Library and Spooner Public Schools Special Education Program
13. Superior Public Library including 2 branch libraries and the Superior Public Schools Special Education Program, Solon Springs School District Title 1 and Maple School District Title 1
14. Washburn Public Library and the Washburn Public School Title I
15. Winter Public Library and the Winter Public School Special Education Program

South Central Library System
Do and Learn: Family Literacy

09-250
\$39,000

Every person has his or her own learning style. Some of us are auditory learners, others learn best through visual or kinesthetic means. Traditional education experiences rely on auditory and visual instruction methods, methods that do not address the needs of kinesthetic learners. Children who live in poverty are predominantly kinesthetic learners; they learn by doing and through hands-on experiences. As a profession, librarians are very comfortable delivering programs that emphasize the auditory and visual learning methods, but very few of us intentionally include kinesthetic experiences and

opportunities for hands-on learners to connect and thrive. To meet the needs of patrons who live in poverty, libraries must provide kinesthetic elements in their family literacy programs.

In addition to building strong learners, incorporating different learning styles into library programs also strengthens self-esteem. Learning is an exercise of the emotions and children who lack emotional development have difficulty developing language skills. By being aware of learning styles, librarians show respect for all ways of understanding and by including kinesthetic activities in library programs they help build the emotional strength necessary for literate, engaged citizens. Library programs that support emotional needs and recognize learning styles are recipes for literacy success.

In the 2009 “Do and Learn” LSTA grant, participating libraries of the South Central Library System (SCLS) will learn new ways to work with families who live in poverty, they will learn ways to build literacy skills by providing kinesthetic activities and they will add these new skills to strengthen their family literacy programs. Whether conducting programs for preschoolers, school-age children or parents, kinesthetic activities and learning by doing provides the opportunity to be active and imaginative problem solvers.

Do and Learn will:

1. Provide sensitivity training and introduce methods for working with families in poverty.
2. Teach librarians ways to include appropriate kinesthetic activities in library programs for young children and their families.
3. Introduce methods for modeling alternate learning techniques to parents and caregivers.
4. Introduce new methods of evaluating literacy programs.

Family literacy programs work for children, adults, and society. These programs also work for libraries and their partners, whose shared goals include improving literacy skills for all members of their communities. “Do and Learn” will help libraries and their partners reach more families and will help children build the skills they need for successful, fully-literate lives.

Southwest Wisconsin Library System 09-252
Outreach to Hispanic Families in SW Wisconsin \$19,750

The small communities in the Southwest Wisconsin Library System have seen a rise in the number of Hispanic families in the past few years. This grant will help the participating libraries better serve this new population of potential users by:

- Providing funds for the addition of collections of Spanish language and ESL material’s
- Provide funds for programming to enhance the awareness of Hispanic culture within the community
- Provide much needed training on how to reach out to provide library services to the Hispanic community
- Provide the tools and skills necessary to facilitate communication between library staff and their Spanish-speaking patrons.

Waukesha Public Library 09-254
Learning HabiTot for Bright Beginnings \$36,950

As the Resource Library for the Waukesha County Federated Library System, the City of Waukesha’s Public Library serves over 96,800 area residents. Nearly 71,000 customers are registered for a Waukesha Public Library card. The Waukesha Public Library is one of the most heavily used libraries in the state, consistently circulating more than 1.4 million items annually.

The city of Waukesha has growing pockets of poverty. Twelve of the city's seventeen elementary schools have more than 20% of their students eligible for free or reduced price lunch. The three schools with highest levels of poverty have 60.39%, 65.46% and 90.09% of their students qualifying for this assistance. According to the 2007 WisKids Count data for Waukesha County the number of children under the age of six has increased by 16% between 2002 and 2006 to 26,406. Within the same period participation in the Birth to Three program which serves low-income families has more than doubled.

In recent years there has been increasing awareness of how the human brain develops and how experiences beginning at birth affect a child's success or failure once she enters the school system. Child development experts have identified a critical need, particularly among low-income urban and rural families, to help parents understand the importance of early brain development and offer them strategies to guide their children's development. Without such intervention, poor and low-income children will not be prepared for school and will continue to fall behind.

2009 is our golden opportunity here at The Waukesha Public Library to address on a local level this challenge that all children start school ready to learn. Within the next year Waukesha Public Library will be renovating and expanding our children's department. The new awareness about the importance of early brain development should shape new library spaces for children! As we renovate we'd like to include an area specifically designed to address early brain development in language, science and math literacy. Our goal is to develop a portion of our children's area as a creative, interactive learning environment, dedicated to very young children and their adult caregivers. A Learning HabiTot! This HabiTot would be a place of recreation and development for young children, but also a place of education for their adults. Learning stations would include information signage for adults to explain "The Science Behind the Fun" and "Take the Learning Home" handout cards with blurbs on inexpensive ways to extend the lesson will be available at each station.

Area children and families most in need of the kind of support and encouragement from this HabiTot must be direct beneficiaries. Our targeted audience includes families who live in poverty, families who speak Spanish in their homes, school age parents and family day care providers who are most often the care givers for low-income parents.

The actual planning and design for the HabiTot center will rely on the guidance and expertise from an advisory council of agencies and groups that serve these families. We will also turn to them to spread the word to their clients and customers; we will keep them updated as construction progresses with storytime visits from library staff and periodic reports and pictures. Partner/advisors and their client families will be invited to special pre-opening "Sneak Peek Parties" to test drive the Learning HabiTot. And we will ask them to conduct follow-up surveys to see how targeted families feel about the HabiTot and their likeliness to become regular library users. Our partner/advisors include: The Birth to Three Program, La Casa de Esperanza, bornlearning Waukesha Coalition, School District of Waukesha, Special Education & Early Childhood Dept, Family Day Care Association of Waukesha, The School-age Parenting Program of the School District of Waukesha and Waukesha Co Project Head Start.

Wisconsin Valley Library Service

09-256

Project Inclusion: Transitions for Teens with Disabilities

\$21,500

The transition years from childhood to adolescence and from adolescence to adulthood present a variety of challenges. For youth with autism spectrum disorders and learning disabilities, facing the social interactions of adolescence can be downright frustrating. Adding to their emotional roller coaster ride is the need to adjust to physical and hormonal changes within their bodies. According to the

National Institute of Mental Health, adolescence is when they “may become painfully aware that they are different from their peers,” a realization they may not be fully prepared to face.

Project Inclusion reaffirms the belief that libraries are an important part of the village needed to raise a child. WVLS and 13 member public libraries will join with community networks supporting the literacy needs of 5,973 youths ages 10-19 with disabilities in Clark, Lincoln, Marathon and Oneida Counties. Each library is pleased to partner with its local school district, bringing together two agencies who love children and learning. Completing the collaboration membership are parents and support groups such as the Central Wisconsin Autism Society, who will provide input on recommended library materials/programs and help with marketing grant activities.

By providing resources for help with schoolwork and pleasure reading and opportunities for involvement in library programming, WVLS libraries hope to foster developmental assets such as a commitment to learning, social competencies, and positive values and identity. The 2009 LSTA grant will enable participants to provide developmentally appropriate library materials in a variety of formats and reading levels for tweens/teens with disabilities. To enhance literacy skills, the Rhinelander District Library will adapt its heralded “Read a Book, See the Movie” program for special education students, in cooperation with the school district.

To connect with this underserved population, libraries will offer gaming programs to encourage positive social interactions and interesting ways of learning cooperation and/or competition. A 2008 survey by Information Solutions Group conducted on behalf of PopCap Games revealed a strong trend in casual gaming among individuals with disabilities; they played more frequently, for more hours per week, and for longer periods of time per gaming session. Slightly more than half (52%) of respondents with developmental/learning disabilities were under 18 years of age. They identified improved concentration, improved coordination/manual dexterity, sensations of achievement and “belonging,” and distraction from loneliness among the benefits of gaming. Library gaming programs will help build assets as library staff become role models/guides and develop positive relationships with tweens/teens in a supportive environment.

Project Inclusion also aims to support parents of youth with disabilities by building library collections which address difficult transition issues: social skills training, sexuality, independent living skills, career/workplace competencies, college exploration and more. In cooperation with community partners, three public education programs will be offered for parents/teachers and others in the community. As author Ellen Notbohm has observed, “Equipping those around our children with a simple understanding of autism's most basic elements has a tremendous impact on their ability to journey towards productive, independent adulthood.”

One of the essential keys to maintaining an inclusive and welcoming library long after the grant's completion is staff training, awareness and sensitivity. The May 2009 Adolescent Literacy Initiative workshop complements the efforts of Project Inclusion. Two gadgets workshops with “hands-on” training about gaming equipment and a teen communication workshop will also help to overcome barriers in staff skills.

Sensory and Mobility Disabilities

Burlington Public Library

09-258

Books to Films at Senior Residences

\$10,261

Medical research shows that a higher level of mental activity in old age reduces the risk of developing an Alzheimer's disease-like dementia and impairment, according to the medical journal Neurology. The Alzheimer's Association and the AARP both encourage seniors to join book clubs and read in order to stay mentally alert.

Although we deliver books to senior residences in the area, we have not established formal book clubs for the residents. Many people enjoy reading more with the ability to discuss the book with others and share opinions and impressions of the novel. Our plan is to begin with one low income senior residence, and provide interested seniors with large print copies and audio versions of books they wish to read and discuss, followed with a showing of the film adaptation of the novel.

Providing multiple copies of varied formats of the material will make it easier for the seniors to be able to read or listen to the books. This would enable all interested seniors at the residence to participate, and take part in the discussion of the book, as well as view and discuss the film adaptation. This program would offer seniors a chance to read, consider, discuss and evaluate materials, and interact with others to share their insights and broaden their thinking.

This collection of materials will also be made available to two other senior residences in our area, as well as to other libraries for senior outreach.

Indianhead Federated Library System

09-260

Enhancing Service to Individuals with Disabilities

\$27,500

The Indianhead Federated Library System (IFLS) seeks to improve library service to individuals with sensory and/or mobility disabilities and to those caring for chronically or terminally ill family members.

Grant funds will be used to purchase software to supplement the Millennium Integrated Library System (Innovative Interfaces, Inc.) "Homebound Module for Circulation" to allow librarians to track patron reading history and requests. This will eliminate manual record keeping and will help the IFLS Library Books-By-Mail (LBBM) program and IFLS member libraries to provide improved customer service to individuals with sensory and/or mobility disabilities.

Libraries participating in the grant will attend a workshop on providing home delivery programs. The workshop will cover selecting books and providing service to people who need assistance to leave their homes. IFLS will help libraries create publicity materials and provide canvas bags to assist with developing or enhancing their home delivery service.

LBBM will purchase additional large print materials and described videos to serve members of this population who are not served by a local library. IFLS libraries will have access to these newly acquired materials, along with LBBM's collection of popular materials and large-print books, through MORE, the IFLS shared automation system.

IFLS will develop a web resource for caregivers to post on the LBBM and library websites, and libraries will receive materials to address caregiver needs.

C. Library Improvement

Library Development Training Projects

Indianhead Federated Library System 09-304
Customer Service: Raising Expectations \$1,500.00

Librarians in the Indianhead Federated Library System (IFLS) have consistently ranked Customer Service and Communication as top training priorities. In April 2007, IFLS conducted a long range planning process and in July of 2008, IFLS distributed a continuing education survey. Librarians identified customer service as a training need both times. In fact, library directors ranked customer service training as the highest priority for their staff.

In order to meet this need, IFLS is planning to bring Gail Johnson and Pam Parr, of Face2Face Communications and Training to do a full-day workshop. Librarians from the IFLS area who saw these presenters at the Public Library Association Conference in March 2008 had glowing reviews about the content and style of their workshops, and highly recommended that IFLS hire them. Johnson and Parr do training on communication and customer service for a variety of agencies and businesses, and they have extensive experience in presenting library-specific training. By working with three other systems IFLS has significantly reduced travel and presentation costs, but nationally- recognized trainers are still very expensive.

In addition to bringing Johnson and Parr to IFLS for training, IFLS will be conducting a virtual meeting to follow-up on ideas gained at the workshop. IFLS will also facilitate a project to help librarians give constructive feedback about customer service elements to other libraries in the system.

Overall, this project will enhance service to library users throughout the IFLS region. It gives libraries opportunities to work together to improve service, and allows them the chance to learn from nationally-recognized experts in the field.

Northern Waters Library Service 09-306
Effective Planning for Small Libraries \$1,487

Carter McNamara, a consultant for non-profit organizations, says, "Simply put, strategic planning determines where an organization is going over the next year or more, how it's going to get there and how it'll know if it got there or not."

During 2008 "Trustee Basics" workshops, NWLS Director Jim Trojanowski talked about the importance of planning. Based upon questions and comments Jim received during and after the workshops, it became clear that many libraries the system serves do not have current plans. Indeed, when Jim surveyed library directors within the system he learned that fewer than one-third of member libraries have a current planning document of any type.

There are misperceptions about planning, including beliefs that it is:

- Difficult, there by requiring the assistance of a paid consultant.
- Too time-consuming for a small group of busy people to do.
- Unimportant for small libraries.
- Not worth the effort since there is little or no competition for libraries in small communities.

To overcome these perceptions, NWLS plans to conduct a workshop for library directors and trustees to discuss library planning. At the workshop a speaker with experience in library planning in rural and poor communities, including tribal communities, will discuss why planning is important, resources available to libraries to assist in planning, and the characteristics of a good plan.

Outagamie Waupaca Library System 09-308
Face to Face Customer Service Training \$1,500

Outagamie Waupaca Library System (OWLS) member libraries experience a high volume of traffic coming through their doors and many must handle this volume with very little personnel. In addition to a high volume of activity, our members must work in an environment that is constantly changing along with equally fluid patron expectations. As demonstrated in a continuing education survey and in workshop evaluations, OWLS members recognize the need for strengthened customer service skills in order to adapt to changing services and provide the best possible library experience for their patrons.

To address this need, OWLS is bringing Gail Johnson and Pam Parr of Face to Face Communications and Training to Appleton for a one-day workshop on communication and customer service. Johnson and Parr are regular presenters at national library conferences and come highly recommended. This workshop will come at the end of a week-long tour of Wisconsin, as we are working with Indianhead Federated Library System (IFLS), South Central Library System (SCLS), and Wisconsin Valley Library System (WVLS) in order to share expenses and obtain a reduced speakers' fee.

OWLS will also begin an ongoing discussion with our member libraries regarding customer service best practices, challenges, and successes. We will create a Customer Service page in the Links for Libraries section of OWLSweb, the system web site, and will write posts regularly on the topic in our bi-weekly blog and email newsletter, Carpe Hootem. A "Secret Shopper" program will also be explored as a possible means to gather objective information about how member libraries are handling customer service and how they might be able to improve.

Customer service has been a topic OWLS has addressed regularly in continuing education workshops since 2006. We have witnessed the benefits of providing training on this topic, but also see the need for further support as staff turnover brings new staff to our member libraries and every day duties become more and more challenging. Strengthening the customer service skills of our member library personnel and providing additional support via system resources will increase their chances for success and will enhance their ability to better serve patrons of all ages while expanding their services for learning and access to resources.

South Central Library System 09-310
Strategic Planning Training \$1,500

Public libraries simply don't have enough resources to do everything a library can do, or even to do all the things they might want to do. This is particularly true in Wisconsin's current economic atmosphere where there is competition for tax dollars, and a perception that taxes are high. A public library's resources include, in addition to funding, such things as staff, time, facilities, collections, and technology. Now, perhaps more than ever, libraries must be able to demonstrate that they are spending the taxpayers' money wisely, and using their limited resources thoughtfully.

A good strategic plan serves as a road map for the library, describing how the library will allocate its scarce resources to meet well-defined priorities. A good strategic plan is a blueprint for the library to follow in building better library service. A strategic plan will probably involve some change in what the

library does or how it does it, but if it is done carefully it will show that the library is being fiscally responsible and responsive to changing needs.

Library boards, directors, and staff are not experts in planning. With this project, South Central Library System will partner with Wisconsin Valley Library Service, Outagamie Waupaca Library System, and Indianhead Federated Library System to bring Gail Johnson and Pam Parr (Face to Face Communications and Training) to Wisconsin to present continuing education workshops on a variety of topics. The workshop at South Central Library System will focus on library strategic planning, which will help our member libraries understand the process, and provide tools to help them develop a plan. Because a workshop can only go so far, we will also contract with Face to Face to assist with the development of at least two SCLS member libraries' strategic plans.

Wisconsin Valley Library Service

09-312

Face2Face Enhanced Customer Service

\$1,500

In this ever changing technologically driven world, improved customer service is the key to providing excellent library service and pivotal to the future of our libraries. In 2008, the number one workshop topic requested in a variety of WVLS surveys was to provide training on enhancing customer service and improving communications skills between library staff and their patrons. To meet this training need, we plan to collaborate with the South Central Library System, the Indianhead Federated Library System, and the Outagamie Waupaca Library System to bring the Wisconsin Valley Library Service library staff the opportunity to enhance their customer service skills utilizing the training expertise of Gail Johnson and Pam Parr of Face2Face Communications and Training.

WVLS will also launch a yearlong effort to promote learning about the new techniques to improve communication and to sustain enhanced customer service. WVLS will provide reading materials and an online /in-person environment for the discussion of these topics and the sharing of ideas to supplement the workshop.